

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS****Claims 1-3 (canceled)**

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** ~~The ink for ink-jet recording according to claim 1,~~ An ink for ink-jet recording comprising:

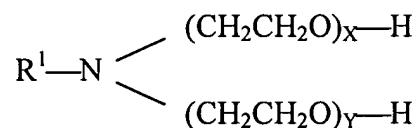
an anionic self-dispersing coloring agent;

a surfactant having both of a cationic moiety and a nonionic moiety; and

water;

wherein a curve, which represents a change of surface tension of the ink with respect to a concentration of the surfactant, has one inflection point, the curve has a first local maximum point and a second local maximum point on a low concentration side and on a high concentration side of the inflection point respectively, and a concentration of the surfactant contained in the ink is higher than a concentration corresponding to the first local maximum point, and

wherein the surfactant is an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the following general formula (1):



Formula (1)

wherein  $\text{R}^1$  represents alkyl group having a number of carbon atoms of 8 to 18, and x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 5$  to 15.

**Claim 5 (previously presented):** The ink for ink-jet recording according to claim 4,

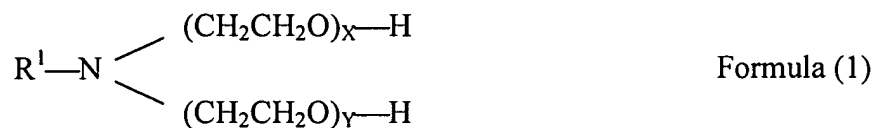
wherein x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 5$ , and an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the formula (1) is contained by not less than 0.25% by weight.

**Claim 6 (previously presented):** The ink for ink-jet recording according to claim 4, wherein x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 15$ , and an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the formula (1) is contained by not less than 0.15% by weight.

**Claim 7 (currently amended):** An ink cartridge which accommodates the ink for ink-jet recording as defined in ~~claim 1~~ claim 4.

**Claim 8 (currently amended):** An ink for ink-jet recording comprising:  
an anionic self-dispersing coloring agent $[[,]]_i$ ;  
a surfactant having both of a cationic moiety and a nonionic moiety $[[,]]_i$ ; and  
water $[[,]]_i$ ;

wherein the surfactant is an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  represents alkyl group having a number of carbon atoms of 8 to 18, and x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 5$  to 15.

**Claim 9 (previously presented):** The ink for ink-jet recording according to claim 8,

wherein x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 5$ , and an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the formula (1) is contained by not less than 0.25% by weight.

**Claim 10 (previously presented):** The ink for ink-jet recording according to claim 8, wherein x and y represent integers which satisfy  $x + y = 15$ , and an alkylamine ethylene oxide adduct represented by the formula (1) is contained by not less than 0.15% by weight.

**Claim 11 (previously presented):** An ink cartridge which accommodates the ink for ink-jet recording as defined in claim 8.